

# Record

THE BAPTIST

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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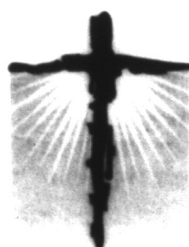
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MISSISSIPPI  
BAPTISTS

## YEC sets target on youth witnessing

By William H. Perkins Jr.  
Editor

The 2007 Youth Evangelism Challenge (YEC) December 27-28 at Mississippi College in Clinton is designed help equip Mississippi Baptist students with the boldness to share their faith with their unsaved peers, according to two of the planners responsible for putting the conference together.

"All of the research that I am reading says that only four percent of Christian teenagers are sharing their faith with others," said Shannon Slover, Challenge coordinator and youth minister at First Church, Laurel. "One prominent youth leader has said, 'Christians are not sharing their faith because they either do not care or they are not being trained to do so.' I believe the youth of Mississippi care and I believe in our teenagers today, so we need to be more effective in our evangelistic training."

"Our goal is to offer an event that complements what our local Mississippi Baptist churches are doing with respect to teaching young people how to reach others for Christ," said Don Lum, evangelism director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson. "The YEC will challenge young people to be vessels for Jesus Christ, tools that God can use to have an impact on their generation."

Special guest speaker will be evangelist Gary Permenter, founder of Gary Permenter Ministries in Columbus. Permenter holds a B.A. degree from Mississippi State University in Starkville, and Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from New Orleans Seminary. He is a former minister of education and students at Mt. Vernon Church, Columbus.

Featured speaker will be James Tealy, a New Orleans native and New Orleans Seminary graduate currently living in Nashville while working on a development deal with Universal Music Publishing.

"I want listeners to come in, sit down and join in the story," Tealy said. "Instead of teaching people some truth that stays distant, I want to invite people into the story to experience what I'm experiencing as I try and figure out what it means to walk in the ways of Jesus."

Leading praise and worship will be Jason Elam, worship pastor at Pinelake Church, Brandon. Prior to his service at Pinelake Church, Elam was worship leader for the college Bible study group at Temple Church, Hattiesburg.

"We believe we are ministers on and off the stage," Elam said. "We desire to be more than platform personalities, but to be relational with people. We desire to do more than just 'hang out' with students and adults, but to invest in something that is eternal — the souls of people. Our desire is to point and direct all the awareness to the only one who is worthy — Jesus Christ."

Elam is backed by his band, Eighty-Six Eleven. His latest album, Infinite God, is now available.

YOUTH EVANGELISM CHALLENGE

December 27-28, 2007

Mississippi College, A.E. Wood Coliseum, Clinton

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: GARY PERMENTER

SPECIAL MUSIC BY: JAMES TEALY

FEATURED SPEAKER: JASON ELAM

### December 27

1 p.m. Registration begins  
2:30 p.m. Session One  
4:30 p.m. Minutes for Dinner  
7 p.m. Session Two  
9 p.m. Minutes

### December 28

9 a.m. Break-Out Groups  
9:45 a.m. Break  
10 a.m. Session Three  
11 a.m. Lunch  
1:30 p.m. Break-Out Groups  
2:15 p.m. Break  
2:30 p.m. Session Four  
3:30 p.m. Minutes

Registration begins  
Thurs. @ 1 p.m.

Challenge Concludes  
Fri. @ 3:30 p.m.

Lum expressed appreciation to Mississippi College and First Church, Clinton, for hosting the YEC, as well as the event planning committee —

Shannon Slover; Jon Cooper, student minister at Highland Church, Laurel; Jon Kittrell, pastor of Maybank Church, Hattiesburg; and Smokey Gibson, student minister at First Church, Biloxi.

"We simply wouldn't be able to have YEC without these folks," Lum said.

Registration for YEC will begin at 1 p.m. on December 27. Cost is \$10 per person if registered by December 14, and \$15 at the door. All meals and overnight accommodations are the responsibility of attendees.

For more information or to receive a registration form, contact Joy Ellis, MBCB Evangelism Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3278 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 278. E-mail: jellis@mbcb.org.

Lum said he is confident that 1,600 young people and their sponsors will fill A.E. Wood Coliseum on the Mississippi college campus. "We in a real growth phase right now, so we should meet or exceed the 1,600 goals," he said.

The YEC will also feature grade-level breakout sessions. Leaders include:

Grades 7-8: Matt Spradlin, student minister at First Church, Soso.

Grade 9: Eric Bean, student minister at First Church, Purvis.

Grade 10: Coleman Nichols, student minister at First Church, Sumrall.

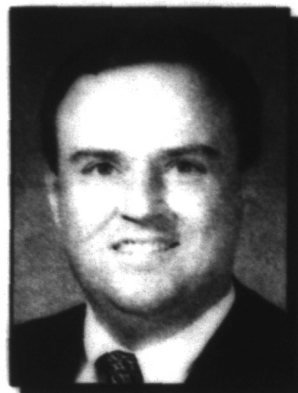
Grade 11-12: Gary Permenter.

Adults: J.D. Simpson, a member of Temple Church, Hattiesburg and director of First Priority, a Christian student organization.





## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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# The Golden Compass points astray

In our uncertain times, it's the one thing on which we can always count. At Christmas each year, the Christian haters in the American entertainment and news media (and who can tell the difference these days) are going to roll out a momentous campaign to discredit our faith. Such has been the case for many years, but the burning animus for religious people that is harbored so deeply and nurtured so carefully in the bosom of these pagans has set a new standard this season.

New Line Cinema on December 7 will release *The Golden Compass*, a \$150 million movie based on the first book of Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* trilogy. The *Golden Compass*, first published in 1995, has as its hero a 12-year-old orphan girl named Lyra Belacqua who lives in a parallel world where everyone has their own "daemon," an animal with anthropomorphic characteristics that acts as a sort of substitute soul.

In this first movie Lyra sets out to discover why children are disappearing without a trace, apparently as a result of a mysterious force called "Dust." What follows

is a sweeping special effects adventure that New Line Cinema hopes will lead to profits large enough to justify producing movies from the other two books of the trilogy, *The Subtle Knife* and *The Amber Spyglass*.

That sounds legitimate enough. Of course movie producers want their work to be successful (and profitable). There's nothing wrong with that. What lies beneath the surface of *His Dark Materials*, however, should be enough to create an uproar in the Christian community and lead to a boycott of this malevolent, anti-religion screed.

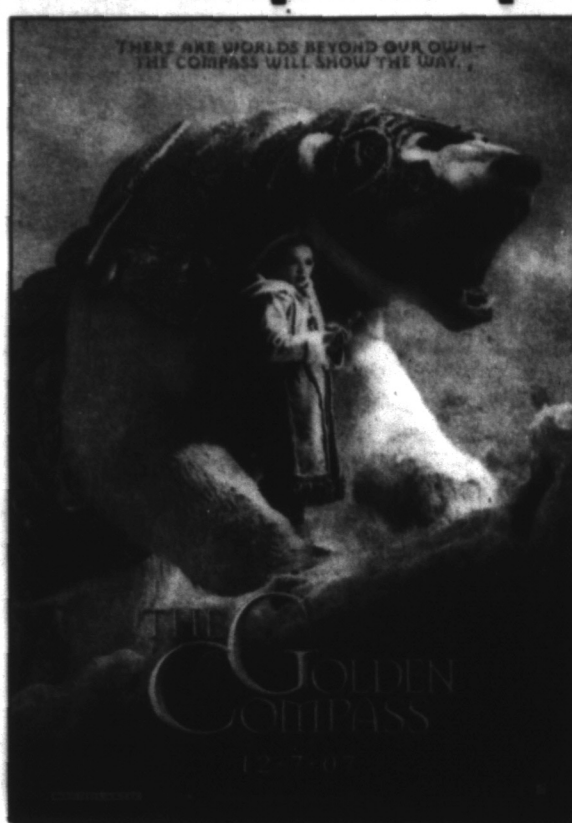
The short version of this story is that the evil Dust turns out to be a metaphor for God, and in the end Lyra and her young compatriots "kill" God to save their world.

Pullman, the author of the trilogy and son of an Anglican clergyman, is a publicly-avowed Christian hater who blames Christianity for most of the world's woes. In a 1992 interview with the *Telegraph*, an English newspaper, he said, "[I]f there is a God and he is as the Christians describe him, then he deserves to be put down and rebelled against. As you look back over the history of the Christian church, it's a record of terrible infamy and cruelty and persecution and tyranny. How they have the bloody nerve to go on [the BBC's] 'Thought for the Day' and tell us all to be good when, given the slightest chance, they'd be hanging the rest of us and flogging the homosexuals and persecuting the witches."

Pullman once described C.S. Lewis' unabashedly Christian masterpiece, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, as "propaganda in the service of a life-hating ideology."

Following are just a few glimpses into Pullman's mind, courtesy of Baptist Press:

• In the second book in the trilogy, *The Subtle Knife*, one of the main characters, Will, is told he possesses "the one weapon in all the universes" — a magical knife — that can "defeat the tyrant." That tyrant, he is told, is "The Authority. God."



• In *The Amber Spyglass*, the third and final book of the series, Will is told — by two fallen, homosexual angels, no less — that The Authority has many names, "God, the Creator, the Lord, Yahweh, El, Adonai, the King, the Father, the Almighty." These were names God "gave himself" even though "he was never the creator."

Instead, Will is told, the Authority simply was the first angel formed out of "Dust" and thereafter God proceeded to tell "those who came after him that he had created them."

• In another scene in *The Amber Spyglass*, one of the homosexual angels tells Will that churches "tell their believers that they'll live in Heaven, but that's a lie." Instead, believers go to a "prison camp."

• In one of the final chapters of *The Amber Spyglass*, an ex-nun named Mary tells Will and Lyra, "The Christian religion is a very powerful and convincing mistake, that's all." Mary also tells them that after she learned there was no God, she soon discovered that "physics was more interesting anyway."

"I don't think it's a reach to say that faith and enjoyment are antithetical in Pullman's worldview," Adam Holz, associate editor of *Focus on the Family's Plugged In*, told Baptist Press. "He seems to say that it's impossible to have a life of joy, of pleasure, and be a member of the church."

Money talks, of course, and Pullman has laid aside his long-held principles for the sake of the movie's success. He hasn't been heard trashing Christianity lately, and some of the more anti-Christian parts of *The Golden Compass* have apparently been minimized or omitted. Don't be fooled, however.

"Not only has the story got a deeply anti-Christian component to it, but [Pullman is] aiming that story at children who may not have the discernment to notice or understand the message he's delivering," Holz told Baptist Press.

"I think Christians need to be aware of where he is coming from. Even if they tone down the anti-church references in all the movies, we're concerned that it's still going to lead people back to the books, because it's going to make people curious," he said.

Scholastic Entertainment, which produced the film, has created a study guide for children and is distributing the guide to teachers across the country — including Mississippi.

Everything is in place to guarantee *The Golden Compass* will be a huge success, a blockbuster. Everything, that is, except Christians' dollars at the box office.

Will we vote with our wallets? It's about time we did.

## Cappleman joins MBCB staff

By William H. Perkins Jr.  
Editor

H. Bruce Cappleman has been approved by the Executive Committee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) to serve as the new Director of Church-Minister Relations. He replaces Frank Harmon, who retired earlier this year.

Cappleman, who will vacate the pastorate of Burning Bush Church in Ringgold, Ga., to assume the MBCB post, is a longtime Mississippi Baptist pastor. He was licensed in 1971 and ordained in 1972 at First Church, Verona. His pastorates include:

- Pleasant Hill Church, Ashland (January 1972-June 1973).
- Palmer Church, Ripley (June 1973-June 1976).
- Broadmoor Church, Gulfport (August 1976-November 1978).
- First Church, Houlika (November 1978-July 1988).
- Griffith Memorial Church, Jackson (July 1988-February 2000).

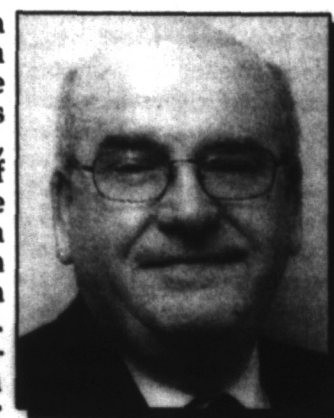
Cappleman holds a B.A. degree from Blue Mountain

College ('75) in Blue Mountain, an M.Div. degree from New Orleans Seminary ('78), and a Doctor of Ministry in Bible degree from Covington Seminary in Rossville, Ga. ('03). He has additional study in Counselor Education at Mississippi State University in Starkville.

Cappleman has served as a member of the state convention boards in Mississippi and Georgia, a trustee of Blue Mountain College, moderator and executive board member of associations in Mississippi and Georgia, and president of the Northeast Mississippi Pastors' Conference.

He is married to Martha Allyne Childers Cappleman, and they have three children. Their son Scott is pastor of Crosspoint Church, Starkville.

"We are glad to welcome Dr. Bruce Cappleman as the new Director of the Church-Minister Relations Department," said



Cappleman

Steve Stone, MBCB associate executive director for church growth. "In 1975, the work of this department was begun to bring together the 'gifts of men' and the needs of the churches. Bruce is the fourth person to serve as director of this department in our state since the department was established."

"Over the years, this department has grown in significance. Bruce will be working on new ways for the department to become more proactive in helping to meet the needs of pastors, staff, and our churches. He brings a compassion, concern and heartbeat for those he will be serving."

Cappleman began his new duties on November 15. He can be contacted at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3225 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 225. E-mail: bcappleman@mbcb.org. Web site: www.mbc.org.



# IMB workers give hope to AIDS sufferers

**MAKOPE STATION,** Uganda (BP) — Saidat Makop is sick. To look at her, you'd never know. She looks as healthy as the next person. Her cheeks are rosy. She works in the garden for hours. Her eyes might look a little tired at times, but all mothers suffer the same.

The truth is, Makop carries the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) in her body.

She is just one of more than 40 million children and adults globally who live with HIV/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

Sub-Saharan Africa, where Makop's home country of Uganda lies, bears the heaviest burden of the pandemic. UNAIDS estimate that 28.5 million, or 64%, of those living with HIV/AIDS call Sub-Saharan Africa home. About 97% of all AIDS-related deaths in 2005 occurred in this region.

Even though Makop is healthy and takes antiretroviral drugs for the disease, she knows her odds of surviving. She lives in a country where AIDS education is a top priority, but it's not the numerous government-sponsored billboards or radio programs that tell Makop she's been given a death sentence — it's personal experience. After all, she's watched family and friends die from AIDS-related illnesses ever since she was a young teen.

"When I tested positive for HIV, I lost all hope," the Ugandan woman said. "I had so many thoughts about my children. If I died, where would they go? Who would take care of them?"

"Then, one day, hope came to my house."

Enock Kategaya and Nabeth Atusasire sit under the shade tree in Makop's yard. The two

counselors from the HIV clinic in Mbarara talk easily with this mother about the physical and social aspects of her health problems. Like most HIV programs, they check up on her medicines and talk about healthy living.

Then, the conversation takes a turn that distinguishes these counselors from other organizations. They talk in-depth about a God who forgives.

Makop looks up, surprised. For the first time in months, a small flicker of hope stirs deep within her. A devout Muslim for years, Makop invites the counselors to return. She wants to learn more about forgiveness.

Kategaya and Atusasire are from a Baptist organization called Words of Hope. A group of Ugandan Baptists and workers from the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention visit the homes of those who come to the HIV clinic in Mbarara. They educate people about HIV and eating healthy, and they share the Gospel.

Grassroots programs like this one have been credited with helping Uganda reduce infection rates. In the 1990s, HIV prevalence was estimated to be around 14%. A well-timed public campaign by the Ugandan government and church organizations, combined with the disease's natural leveling-out, brought the prevalence rates down to seven percent in 2005, according to UNAIDS reports.

Even though HIV prevalence in Uganda is much lower than it once was, it still remains high and AIDS still claims more than 91,000 lives each year.

Kategaya said one of the reasons organizations like Words of Hope works is that it has Ugandans educating their peers.

"This is something that has to be tackled from a Ugandan perspective. We sit with our clients in their homes. We try to break down the stigma that goes with HIV/AIDS, not just with education but by our presence."

The Baptist program reaches out to clients who live within a 25-kilometer radius of the clinic. They care for their clients' physical and spiritual needs, concentrating on offering words of hope as their name implies.

A church and several Bible studies have started from these home visits. In this small area alone, Words of Hope counselors visit hundreds of clients like Makop, offering a new life in Christ.

Makop sits waiting under the shade



**HOPE IN JESUS** — Although Saidat Makop looks healthy and works hard every day, within her body she has the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). She invited the Baptist program Words of Hope to her home to share about health issues, but they brought more than vitamins. They brought hope. Through the Words of Hope counseling program, she learned about Jesus and His forgiveness. (IMB photo)

tree with the Bible the Words of Hope counselors gave her. This time, she is not alone when Kategaya and Atusasire arrive. Several friends and neighbors also want to hear about forgiveness and how to live a healthy lifestyle.

"You should see how the lives here have changed," Kategaya said proudly after months of teaching Bible lessons under the tree. "People are healthier because we've taught them to eat fruits and vegetables."

"People are forgiving their neighbors because they understand God forgave them," he said. "People are coming to Christ here."

Makop smiles shyly with Kategaya's words. She explains

that Words of Hope changed her own life. They introduced her to the hope she was looking for. She no longer goes to the mosque searching for answers; she looks in her Bible and prays.

Physically, living with HIV has not changed for Makop. She still tires faster than she did when she was healthy. She still wonders if she will live long enough to see her children become adults.

Spiritually, Makop is a different person. Her eyes shine bright with hope and a passion for her newfound faith. "Because of Words of Hope, I now have hope in God. All my hope is now in God. I trust God to take care of my children when I am gone."

"All my trust is in God."

## Looking back

### 10 years ago

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Executive Committee, in their organizational meeting December 2 at the Baptist Building in Jackson, approves the expenditure of up to \$69,000 for material for a new building at Central Hills Retreat near Kosciusko.

### 20 years ago

Reacting to turmoil at Southeastern Seminary, the moderate Southern Baptist Alliance votes to study a new seminary in the Southeast. The Alliance task force is headed by Mahan Siler, pastor of Pullen Memorial Church, Raleigh, and will report to the Alliance board on January 11.

### 50 years ago

A goal of four million Southern Baptists committed to soul winning during 1958 was announced in Dallas by Leonard Sanderson, secretary of the Department of Evangelism, Home Mission Board, SBC.

## TELL ME!

the story of Jesus



**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL MISSION STUDY**

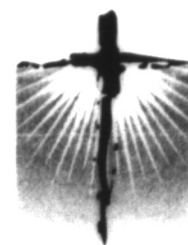
Dec. 2-9, 2007

**LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING\***

Our Goal: \_\_\_\_\_



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MISSISSIPPI  
**BAPTISTS**

**THE SECOND  
FRONT PAGE**

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#### YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer  
with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you.  
(I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my  
sins and freedom from eternal  
death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose  
from the grave to forgive my  
sins and to restore my rela-  
tionship with you.  
(I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus  
Christ into my life. From this  
time on, I want to live in a lov-  
ing relationship with Him. (I  
receive Christ as my Savior  
and Lord.)

"But as many as received him,  
to them he gave the right to become  
children of God, even to those who  
believe in his name." (John 1:12)

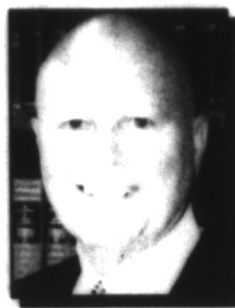
If you make a decision for  
Jesus Christ today, contact a  
local Baptist church for spiritu-  
al guidance.

#### PURPOSEFUL LIVING

For some years many of our churches have focused in on purpose — *The Purpose Driven Life*, *The Purpose Driven Church* — just purpose in general. What is your purpose for being here? I thought about the entry-way to a mall that I saw and like most malls, it had a diagram of a map of the mall and a red arrow pointing that usually says, "You are here." Somebody had changed it and had written in on the map a question that simply asked, "Why are you here?" Well, that can be expanded for every one of us as we walk through life. Why are we here? Christians come to understand that in the plan and will of God that there is a purpose for us living.

It is fascinating to think about the will of God. It unfolds one day at a time, almost one second at a time as you seek to find and follow His plan and purpose for you. Then at the conclusion of life the totality of the journey, the body of your life's work, will be summed up in just a thought, a moment, or an idea. Every one of you reading this article knows Dick Wilson. You may not know that you know him, but you do. Dick Wilson is not famous for being Dick Wilson. He is famous for what you will remember about him.

In November 2007, Dick Wilson died. He was 91 years of age and he had lived a full, enjoyable, and interesting life. While you may think that you do not know Dick Wilson you probably knew him better as



## Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

"Mr. Whipple," the somewhat cranky and crabby store employee who would catch people and admonish them, "Don't squeeze the Charmin." In his lifetime, Mr. Wilson made over 500 commercials telling folks not to squeeze the Charmin.

It seems that we all could learn some lessons from Dick Wilson as we walk through life and search for purpose in being here. One of the things that we could learn from him is that it is important to do what we do to the best of our ability regardless of how insignificant or small the task may be. Dick Wilson was not Clark Gable, George Clooney, or Tom Hanks but obviously, the huge paper company found him to be a significant force in their advertising.

I suppose for all of us as we seek to serve the Lord it seems as though our role is so small. We begin to think that the class we teach is not a big deal. The kids we work with on Wednesday night are not going to impact the world or maybe at times just the act of kindness, a cup of cold water in Jesus' name, is not going to mean much. Sometimes we may even begin to think that because the congregation we pastor is not a

megachurch that we are not doing much good or that our efforts in visitation are not producing any positive results. The fact is that just a small thing placed in the hands of Jesus becomes a magnificent unfolding of the purpose of God. A little boy with a small lunch and the fish and bread turned into a feast for thousands. An ignorant or unlearned fisherman who becomes a follower of Jesus only to stumble and fail repeatedly becomes the powerful preacher on the day of Pentecost. Who would have ever dreamed of the mark that they would leave on people's lives? You are no different and in the wonderful purpose of God for your life, you can and will make a difference when you do what He wants you to do to the best of your ability.

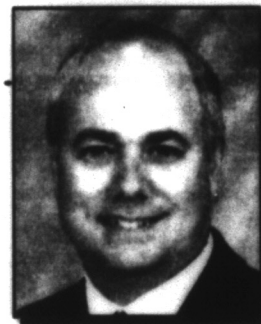
Another significant lesson that we could learn from Mr.

Whipple, or maybe it is just a reminder, is that life is brief. Ninety-one years is a long life. It was well beyond the average that people will live, but his life among us and his many ads on TV are now concluded. The Bible so beautifully pictures the brevity of life. It is like a blade of grass that is cut, and so quickly withers, or a flower picked that soon begins to shed its petals. Like the vapor that rises from a boiling pot, it disappears into thin air. Life is, and then is soon over. So what you are going to do for the Lord, do quickly. Time will not always be yours; opportunities will soon pass; and the days will be over.

The Scripture declares, "This is the day that the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Ps. 118:24). What you may have enjoyed for many days this day, the day in which you live is the only one in which you can act, love, care, give, and make a difference. So capture it today or maybe even more important let the day capture you and let your light shine for Christ and your influence reach out to others for Him.

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#### STAFF CHANGE



Bennett

1. First Church, Ridgeland, has called B.J. Bennett as pastor effective Nov. 11. Bennett has served as pastor in churches in Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky, and Georgia, and most recently served First Church, Indianola. He holds degrees from Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He is married to the former Nancy Carol Stegall and has two daughters, one son, and one grandson.

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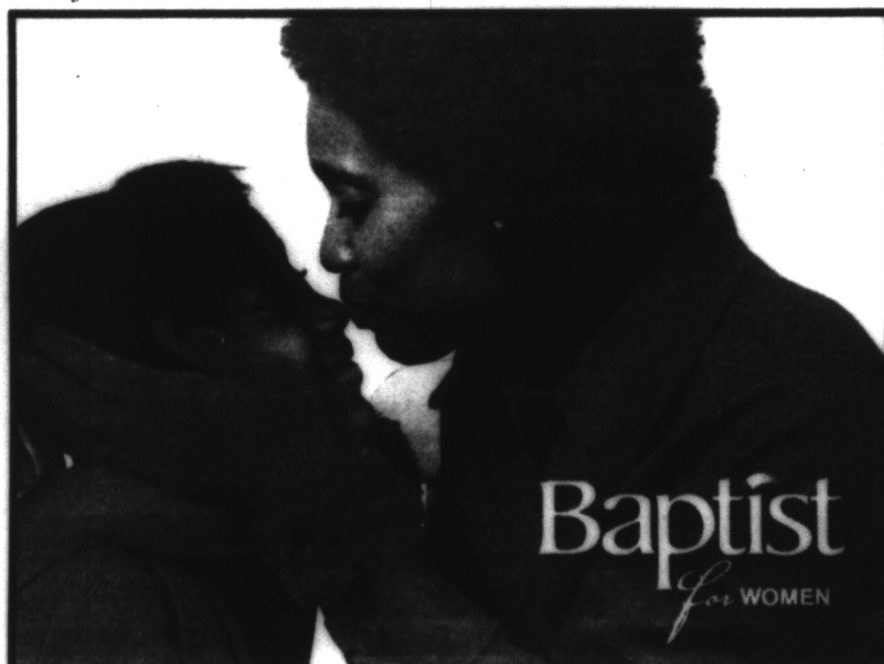
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What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light, and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

# HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

December 6, 2007

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

## ON THE CAMPUS WITH BSU

### Directors Speak

MISSISSIPPI  
**BSU**  
We're there!

#### GARY DAVISON

Hinds Community College, Raymond

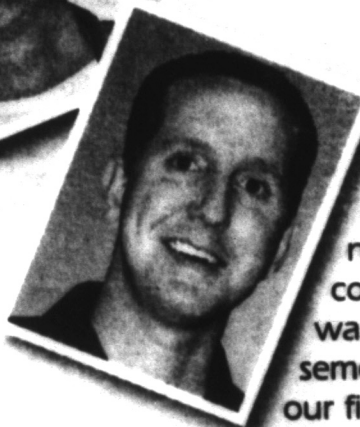
Several international students recently came with us on a retreat, including a student from a Muslim country. He knows several of our students and feels comfortable around them. He told us that he was skipping Ramadan this year. He has heard the Gospel on several different occasions and other students have shared with him before. Many have been praying for him and we believe that he is close. We are excited that God has brought him to Hinds.



#### KELLY WHEAT

Mississippi College, Clinton

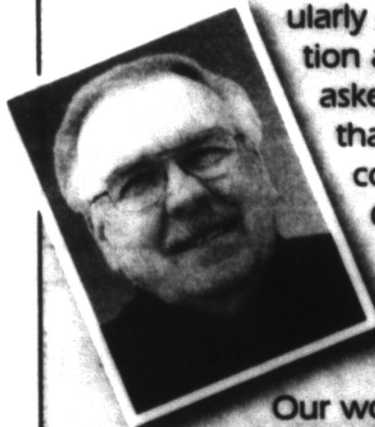
One particular freshman has really become involved and seems to be connecting well. After our first conversation during welcome week, I was not sure if we would see him much during the course of the semester. I made a point each time I was in the cafeteria to talk to him and see how his semester was going. He didn't really attend many of our first events or small group gatherings, but I continued to follow up with him and was able to see him regularly around campus. Last week, he came and asked for information about getting a Mississippi ID. As we talked in my office, he asked about small groups and wanted to know about them. Since that time he has been attending our campus worship and has connected with a small group. I am looking forward to what God will do in his life this semester.



#### TOM MCLAUGHLIN

Northwest Mississippi Community College, Senatobia

Our work this fall with the football team has been very successful. I have the opportunity to speak to the team weekly and pray for them before the games. BSU also hosts a Chapel each Sunday in our building. There were 95 athletes who attended the first chapel of the year. We have really been trying to reach out to the athletes on our campus and this is giving us a great foundation. Also, we continue to make inroads through our concessions. Running the concession stand gives us an opportunity to be in touch, on a regular basis, with the softball, soccer, and baseball teams. Being around these athletes through the concession stand is a great bonus in addition to the mission money it helps raise. Concessions from baseball funds our Mexico mission team each year.



**PRAY FOR YOUR BSU MISSION MINISTRY ON 30 CAMPUSES ACROSS MISSISSIPPI**  
For more info, contact Weaver McCracken, 601-292-3299 or [wmccracken@mbcb.org](mailto:wmccracken@mbcb.org)

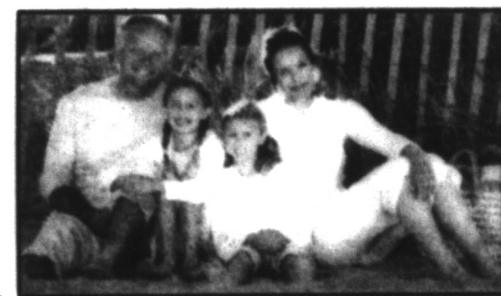
## Mississippi Family **TEST** on the Gulf Coast July 26-30, 2008

Location: Jackson County

Cost: \$25 per person (\$50 maximum for immediate family members) Includes program fee, t-shirt, breakfast and lunch meals, plus dinner on Wednesday evening.

Types of Ministries: Light Construction/Painting, Community Service & Outreach, Children's Ministries, Acts of Kindness

How to Register: Request a registration packet by calling MS WMu at 800-748-1651, ext. 317, or E-mail [lmiller@mbcb.org](mailto:lmiller@mbcb.org).



This event is co-sponsored by the Family Ministry Team, Men's Ministry, Mississippi WMu, Jackson Association, and participating local churches.

For more information please contact Don Gann ([dgann@mbcb.org](mailto:dgann@mbcb.org)) in Men's Ministry or Tammy Anderson ([tanderson@mbcb.org](mailto:tanderson@mbcb.org)) in Mississippi WMu at 800-748-1651.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!

#### MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST 2008 Christian Education Clinics

Highland Baptist Church, Meridian  
February 9, 2008

&  
Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Madison  
March 8, 2008



*It is the desire of Mississippi Baptists to offer quality training for those who affect the lives of Mississippi's most precious citizens. Please make plans to attend the 2008 clinic of your choice. If you have any questions, please call the numbers listed below.*

**Don Hicks, consultant**  
Discipleship & Family Ministry  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board  
Tel: 1.800.748.1651 or 601.292.3287  
E-mail: [dhicks@mbcb.org](mailto:dhicks@mbcb.org)

**Susie McNair, clinic coordinator**  
Christian Education Clinics  
Tel: 601.954.8650  
E-mail: [gsmcnair@yahoo.com](mailto:gsmcnair@yahoo.com)

Registration form will be sent later this year.







# Christian Performing Arts Festival February 22-23, 2008

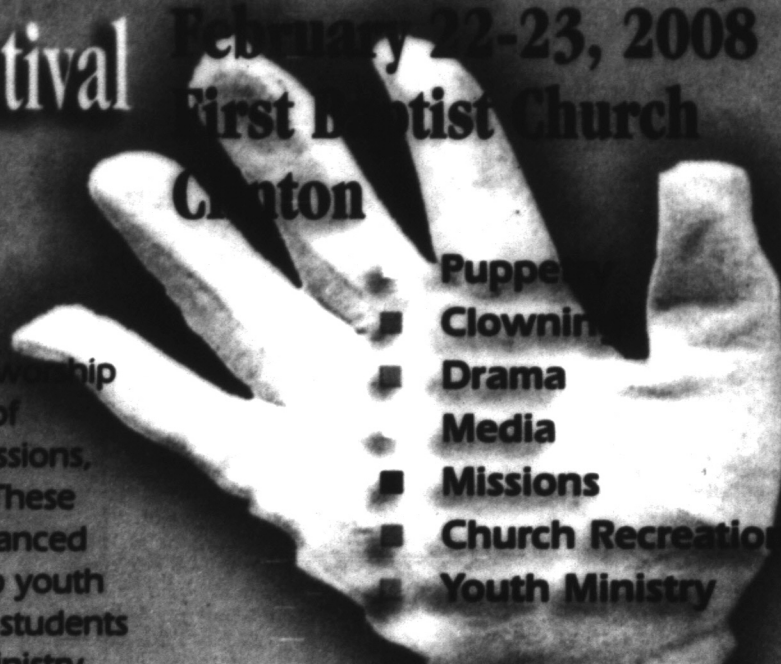
Cost: \$35 per person by January 18  
(includes lunch on Saturday and T-shirt; free admission  
for one leader per 10 paid participants)



The Christian Performing Arts Festival offers platform performances, creative worship and 90+ seminar options in the areas of puppetry, clowning, drama, media, missions, church recreation and youth ministry. These seminars range from beginning to advanced levels and are designed to better equip youth ministers, lay leaders, church staff and students to be more creative in their worship ministry

and in creative arts evangelism. It is our hope that you will consider being a part of this weekend in 2008.

First Baptist Church  
Grenada



- Puppetry
- Clowning
- Drama
- Media
- Missions
- Church Recreation
- Youth Ministry



**Featured  
Guests:  
FISHWORKS**

*Child care is not provided.  
This conference is geared for  
6th grade thru adult.*

*If you have any questions about the festival, please contact the  
Discipleship and Family Ministry Department, at 601-292-3283  
or 1-800-748-1651 or E-mail at [redwards@mbcb.org](mailto:redwards@mbcb.org).*



## 4th Annual Senior Adult Evangelism Rally

**Place:** Emmanuel BC, Grenada

**Date:** January 22, 2008

**Time:** 8:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

### *Four Breakouts:*

**"Taking up your Towels" (John 13)**

Phil Walker, Pastor, Ridgecrest, Madison

**"Fresh Encounter with God"**

Bill Patterson, Pastor, FBC, Richland

**"Evangelism through Caregiving"**

Cindy Still, Alabama

(former wMu Director of Nevada Convention/  
Consultant for the Missouri Convention)

**For Leaders: "What Makes a Good Senior Leader!"**

Bobby Shows, Missouri

(former Senior Adult Consultant for Missouri  
Convention)

**Music:** Russell Newport, Springhill, Missouri

**Pianist:** Irene Martin, Harpersville, Miss.

**Preacher:** John Avant

(former Vice President of Evangelism for the NAMB)

Pastor of FBC, West Monroe, La.

*If you have any questions, please call Discipleship and Family  
Ministry at 601-292-3373 or 1-800-748-1651  
or E-mail [gshows@mbcb.org](mailto:gshows@mbcb.org).*

# The Time is Now!

Acts 1:8  
STATE EVANGELISM CONFERENCE 2008

John  
Avant

Roy  
Fish

Brian  
Fossett

Jim  
Futral

Sammy  
Gilbreath

Frank  
Page

Bobby  
Welch

## January 20-22, 2008

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH  
GRENADE, MISSISSIPPI

For more info, contact  
the Evangelism Department  
at 601-292-3278  
or 1-800-748-1651



# Pray this day for...

December 7, 2007 - January 10, 2008

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

*In the midst of the Christmas rush, an innocent child asks, "What about the baby Jesus?" Slow down, focus, remember and remind others that Jesus is indeed the reason for the season.*

Three new Bible study groups have been recently started among professional people in Guatemala City. Most attendees follow a traditional religion and have never been involved in Bible study before. They are excited to be going straight to the Bible and discovering how it can actually speak to them.

God's work among the Chakma people of Bangladesh is at a critical junction. Leaders have broken relationships and marriage problems, and churches are discouraged. Pray protection over them and that God will heal these relationships. Pray also that outreach to Chakmas will not be obstructed by Satan's tactics.

Pray for the Bhana people of India and Pakistan. There are about 3.5 million Bhana people who do not know of Jesus Christ and His crucifixion, burial and resurrection. Pray that all of them will hear the Truth and come to know Him as God.

Pray for Christians living among the Somali in the Horn of Africa to be prepared in language ability, cultural understanding and spiritual resources. Pray that the day will come when there is a deep hunger for the righteousness of God among the Somali and they have ears to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

During a recent service in a prison near Bangkok, a young Thai man wept openly. When asked why, he said, "God is chasing me." A few years ago as a teenager, he had attended the same church. Please pray that he will turn from drugs and turn his life to Christ.

Excitement is high for the mobilization of collegiate students through a new program in West Africa called "Hands On." These teams will begin arriving on the mission field in January 2008. Ask God to prepare the hearts of unreached people groups in West Africa whom the "Hands On" missionaries will be serving.

(1) Office Christmas Luncheon 11:30 a.m.; (2) What is the answer to the AIDS problem in Swaziland? The answer is Jesus Christ! Pray that Christians will live pure and holy lives so that many Swazis will come to know Jesus as their Savior.

Pray for the 200,000 Gayo people of North Sumatra to have access to the gospel. Ask God to call out believers who will live among them, learn their unwritten language, and share with them the Bible stories of God's love.

The Maninka Team of West Africa writes: "...S and P, husband and wife, became our first Maninka believers in upper Guinea area and continue to meet regularly with the team members that led them to Christ. Ask the Lord to give them strength to stand fast in their commitment to Christ."

Give thanks that the Jeju Team of South Korea was able to locate a suitable place to rent as a mission center after looking at more than 22 locations. Please pray for the Saturday services. Pray that the center will become a place where people can worship and be discipled.

A couple on the Susu Team of Guinea reports that God has placed a real desire in the hearts of villagers to study His Word. One young man insists on postponing a soccer game that would conflict with a scheduled time of study. Another told his wife to stop cooking dinner to come hear God's Word.

Pray for a spiritual awakening among the 1.3 million Kazak Muslims of China. Pray for new believers to be grounded in the Word and to stand firmly against all spiritual attacks. Pray for workers and new believers to be bold, loving and effective witnesses to Christ and the hope He offers to all who believe.

(1) Christmas Day; (2) Business people are one of the most difficult groups of Japanese to meet and talk with. Japanese young men 25-35, are especially busy and have many demands on their time. Stress-related depression is widespread. Yet Christians of Tokyo are hosting Bible studies and prayer in their apartments.

(1) New Year's Day; (2) A member of the Julia Team of Cote D'Ivoire shares: "Recently I began a Bible study with I and his son A, who was home on break from the university. Ask the Lord to inspire these two men to share the gospel to the thousands of Julia people who live in their own neighborhood."

Please ask God to raise up more national Volkaliga partners in India who have a heart to see the knowledge of the glory of God spread throughout their own communities. Pray that strategy coordinators will be able to find faithful believers who they can train to reach the 10 million lost Volkaliga.

Pray for Pastors Z and H as they continue their efforts on the western side of Johannesburg, South Africa. Pray that they will continue to seek God's guidance and encouragement. Intercede especially for Pastor Z, as he must be away from home 10 days a month to attend theological college.

Workers in Pepper Port in the Pacific Rim are teaching English to high school teachers. This is a great way to get to know these influential people who need to know the Lord. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open their hearts and minds to their need and His provision, and for opportunities to share Christ with them.

V and S are young newlyweds living in a tiny flat where S cleans, cooks and cares for V and his two brothers. V is a national believer who longs for his wife to serve alongside him as an evangelist. S grew up in a village, so city life is new and strange to her. Please pray for her adjustment.

S gave his life to Christ when a volunteer team from Ohio came to his village in June. He shared this testimony: "It has been 14 days since I've smoked!" His friend, a smoker was amazed. "How did you do it?" he asked. S replied, "When the desire to smoke overtakes me, I go to my room and ask God to take the desire away and He does."

Pray that the Persian believers in Iran will recognize "divine appointments" and, in spite of persecutions, boldly explain the gospel.

Ask God to bless and empower all those who are training believers to evangelize and train others. Pray that even as God's workers acknowledge that it is God giving the growth, they will focus on strategic ways to lay the groundwork for millions of people in cities all over China to know the Savior.

Ask God to raise up apostles from the Shan Dai of the Pacific Rim and to the Shan Dai men who are connected in their communities and willing to risk their own interests for the sake of establishing a vibrant church among the Shan Dai.

(1) YEC - Youth Evangelism Challenge, Mississippi College, Clinton, 27th - 28th (Evan); (2) Missionary Personal Needs - A worker among unreached people group had knee surgery, so please pray that her recovery time will go well.

Team SOAR of Oblast area of Russia writes: "This summer, while a volunteer group was in the city of K, there were difficulties with local authorities over visas. Recently a team member met with N, our city contact. She wanted to read the Bible to see what we believed. Pray that her heart will be open to the truth."

Baptism is a critical step of faith for every new believer. New believers from a Muslim background often have to choose between pleasing people and obeying Jesus Christ. Pray for each believer to understand that baptism does not wash away sin, but is the pledge of a good conscience toward the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Lift up a new opportunity that involves ministering to seafarers who come to Malta. These ships bring workers from everywhere and they may remain several days. The goal is to equip believers on these ships to plant churches on their ship to minister to the crew. Pray that God will call a special couple to this ministry.

For more than 160 years, Baptist representatives and local Christians have looked over northern Thailand and longed for the people to turn to Jesus, yet they are not willing. Please pray that the eyes and ears of the Northern Thai will be open to the message of Christ. Pray for Baptist workers there, also.

Pray for a young woman language teacher among the Aegean Turks of Turkey. She is not a believer, but she recently watched the 'JESUS' film and has shown a lot of interest. She was engaged to be married, but recently called off the wedding and is at odds with her family members. Pray for her salvation.

Approximately 80 percent of the 300,000 residents of Tongxin, China, are Hui Muslims. There are no known Christians. Plead with the Lord of the harvest to send workers to till the soil and plant the seeds of the gospel among the Hui of Tongxin.

Since the spring of 2007, Baptist representatives Chris and Cathie Smith and a young Spanish family have been meeting in their homes for simple house church. They want a more public location for Spaniards to attend. Ask God to meet this need for His glory through these two families.

Pray for God to provide two journeymen women to help International Service Corp. Workers, Paul and Tena Brock, in Nagkanizsa, Hungary, in 2008. These women would work with the Brocks to reach out to students in the local school systems.

Several young adult believers have accepted opportunities to study in the West. Pray that they will return to their homeland after their studies and be committed to living for Christ there, rather than permanently settling in the West.

Bihar, India, proudly stands as the birthplace of Buddhism, yet Buddhism has nearly died out in India. A prayer advocate writes: "Governments from several countries are working together to revive a ruined Buddhist university. Pray for revival among the churches and Christian leaders to seize this time to prepare."

One Kabyle pastor in Algeria said that he has been particularly moved by the older women who have become believers while alone in their homes watching Christian TV. They are full of the joy of Christ, even though subjected to rejection and social exclusion by family and friends. Pray for their bold witness.

"A number of young people were baptized not long ago at Botsele Baptist Church in Caborone, Botswana," writes the Tswana Team. "Pray for these young believers who are faced with many temptations day after day. Pray that they will continue to grow in their relationship with Christ and share His truth with others."



**FOR SECURITY,**  
cards will be forwarded. Please send  
all to:  
Child's name,  
Parent's name,  
MBCB wMu MK Birthdays,  
PO Box 530, Jackson MS 39205

**PLEASE NOTE:** Church members  
may send a  
package of cards together; cards do not  
have to be sent individually  
to the wMu.

2/1/04  
**MR. JOSHUA A. SCHMITZ**  
Parents: Burton & Suzanne  
West Africa

2/2/07  
**MISS ALESSIA V. WORTHY**  
Parents: Charlie & Shannon  
Western Europe

2/12/02  
**MISS ALICE A. MULLINS**  
Parents: Frank & Lynn  
Western Europe

2/12/03  
**MISS REBEKAH J. SCHMITZ**  
Parents: Burton & Suzanne  
West Africa

2/16/01  
**MR. HADDON BLEDSOE**  
Parents: David & Laurie  
Eastern South America

2/20/88  
**MISS KATY HORTON**  
Parents: Francis & Angie  
Baptist Global Response

2/24/00  
**MR. NATHAN PEACOCK**  
Parents: Kevin & Brenda  
Middle America

# HOUSE TOPS

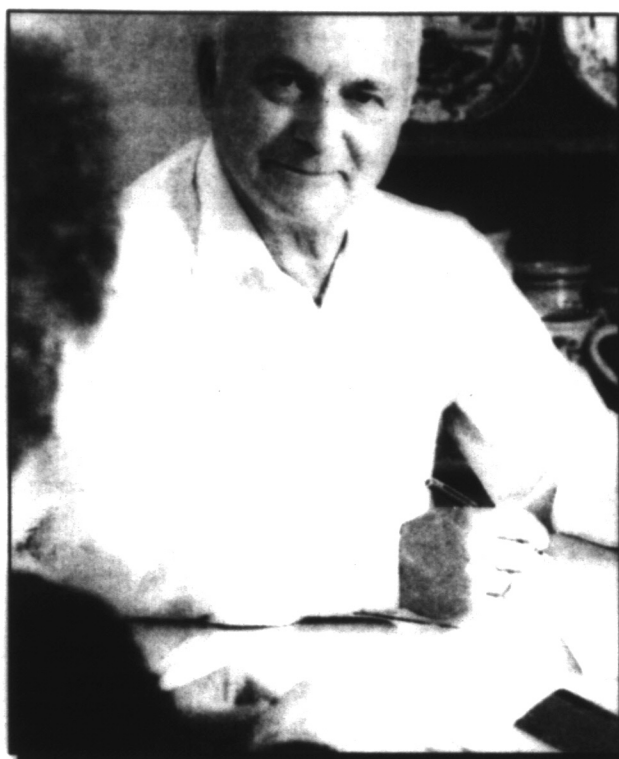


# Pension law brings new opportunities and eternal dividends

By Daniel Hall, Executive Director  
Mississippi Baptist Foundation

Congress has taken important steps to strengthen America's retirement system through the Pension Protection Act of 2006. Not only does this legislation offer taxpayers some new opportunities for tax-free charitable giving in 2007, but the benefits of this legislation can reap eternal dividends.

Specifically, the Charitable IRA Rollover provision of the Pension Protection Act, permits individuals who are 70½ or older the opportunity to exclude from gross income up to \$100,000 of otherwise taxable distributions from their IRA (Individual Retirement Account) when such funds are contributed directly to a qualified charity. Thus, PPA enables Mississippi Baptists to utilize their IRAs to offer financial support to Baptist ministries without incurring adverse tax consequences. Although the IRA owner/donor receives no charitable income tax deduction on the distribution, the donor does receive credit toward their required minimum distribution by contributing funds from their IRA to a qualified charity.



Examples of qualified charities would be churches, associations of churches, the Mississippi Baptist

Convention, all of our Baptist institutions and agencies (Baptist colleges, Baptist Children's Village, etc.) and ministries associated with the Southern Baptist Convention (IMB, NAMB, seminaries, etc.). In addition, distributions to one or more of these ministries through an endowment established with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation would qualify under the Pension Protection Act.

As you explore the possibility of funding charitable ministries with proceeds from your IRA, please make note that this PPA provision is available through December 31, 2007. Should you have any questions regarding this approach to charitable giving or desire to discuss other aspects of your estate planning and stewardship goals, please feel free to call the Mississippi Baptist Foundation at (601) 292-3210 or email [dhall@mbcb.org](mailto:dhall@mbcb.org).

*\*This material presents general information and therefore does not represent specific tax or legal advice.*

## Charitable IRA Rollover Summary

- Distributions may be derived from an individual retirement account.
- The IRA owner must be age 70½ or older at the time of distribution.
- The distribution must be directed to one or more qualified public charities.
- Excluded organizations include donor advised funds and private foundations, etc.
- Split interest arrangements with annuity charitable remainder trusts do not qualify.
- Distributions up to \$100,000 to a qualified charity are excluded from the IRA owner's taxable gross income.
- The IRA donor does not receive an income tax deduction since these funds were not subject to taxation in the first place.
- Distributions must occur by December 31, 2007.

## EXAMPLE OF THE BENEFITS OF THIS NEW LEGISLATION

Mr. Mississippi Baptist is 71 years old and has an IRA valued at \$100,000. Because of his age, he is required to receive taxable minimum distributions that are calculated for him by the custodian of his IRA. Despite this requirement, Mr. Baptist's other sources of income are sufficient so he really doesn't need any additional revenue. In addition, he would prefer not to pay taxes on these distributions. In fact, he would prefer to make a gift to a charity to avoid both current income taxes and the possibility of future estate taxes. Prior to the advent of the Pension Protection Act of 2006, Mr. Baptist was savvy enough about tax law to realize that his charitable deduction would be limited under the former regulations.

In consultation with his CPA and other advisors, however, Mr. Baptist learned that a provision in the Pension Protection Act of 2006 would allow him to gift his IRA directly to his favorite Baptist ministries without creating any new tax liability. Inasmuch as Mr. Baptist already had planned to support Baptist work through his will, he decided to instruct his IRA custodian to remit \$100,000 to these ministries while he is still alive. By responding to this new legislation in a timely manner, Mr. Baptist avoided taxes and accomplished his estate goals while also having the joy of living to see the blessings of his Christian stewardship.

# START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT!



THE AVERAGE  
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January  
1

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## THE VILLAGE VIEW



Dr. Rory Lee, Executive Director

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(601) 922-2242

[www.baptistchildrensvillage.com](http://www.baptistchildrensvillage.com)

## GIFTS OF HONOR AND MEMORY

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor with pride and respect those who are and have been special to our special friends.

Nov. 20-Dec. 3, 2007

### HONORS

#### Adult 4 Men's SS Class

Mr. Robert A. Smith  
Anne Abel  
Glenda & Jerry Fry  
Ed Abel  
Glenda & Jerry Fry  
Dr. & Mrs. John Chilton  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Mrs. Janelle Cox  
Mrs. Lois T. Kennedy  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Estess  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Mr. Dan Farmer  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Dr. & Mrs. John Goolsby, Sr.  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Dr. John M. Goolsby, Sr.  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Mrs. Jean Gully  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Mrs. Annie Laurie Gunter  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Sue Hall  
Mr. & Mrs. Dewey C. Sanford  
Mrs. Martha Hancock  
Lylian SSC, FBC-Soso  
Mrs. Virginia Hathorne  
Lylian SSC, FBC-Soso  
Mrs. Catherine Heranney  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter B. Moore  
Mrs. Louise Hill  
Lylian SSC, FBC-Soso  
Mr. John & Mrs. Mary Hobbs  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Mrs. Dolly Hobbs  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Mrs. Mildred Holmes  
David, Allison & Reagan Bartley

Chuck Keeler  
D. R. & Linda Ingram  
Lance & Brandy Newman  
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Jayroe  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Mrs. Lee Audis Jayroe  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Mr. James & Mrs. Ashley Litton  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Mrs. Jeanette McCarty  
Lylian SSC, FBC-Soso  
W. R. & Barbara Newman  
Lance & Brandy Newman  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Nunnelee  
Mr. & Mrs. Dewey C. Sanford  
Mrs. Dot Pate  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Frances L. Roberts  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary A. Carpenter  
Terry & Sally Scheibner  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Mrs. Jane Shalles  
Eloise Crossley's SSC,  
FBC-Columbus  
Inez Shannon  
Mr. Clarence M. Shannon  
The Barry Thomas Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Dewey C. Sanford  
Mr. & Mrs. Rob Thorne  
Mr. & Mrs. Dewey C. Sanford  
Mrs. Mildred Warren  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Mr. & Mrs. Rick White & Allison  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Mr. Rick White  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Mrs. Ruth Whitt  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Steve & Nancy Wise  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Woods  
Mr. & Mrs. Dewey C. Sanford

### MEMORIALS

#### Deceased members of Joe McNair Family

Joe McNair SSC, FBC-Magee  
Anne Artman Alexander  
Mrs. Thomas Bell  
Mr. Nelson Allred  
Union Baptist Church  
Dr. Tom Atwood  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Pettey  
Mrs. Betsy Bearden  
East Louisville BC  
Mrs. Margaret Beeson  
Mrs. JoAnn Pace  
Mr. & Mrs. Olen S. Broom  
Roy Betts  
Mrs. Sheila Huffman  
Ruby Breland Bexley  
Mrs. Carmen Green  
Mike Blakenship  
Mrs. Hiram Davis, Jr.  
Ms. Nancy J. Lewis  
Marlin D. Blanton  
Ms. Ethleen J. Blanton  
Mrs. Elwanda Boatright  
Dr. Joe Lovelady's SSC,  
N. Oxford BC  
Mr. George Bonham  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Mangold  
Mr. Mel Booker  
Mr. Joseph H. Frye & Family  
Doris Boswell  
Ms. Jurline Steed  
Wayne Bowles  
Ms. Faye C. Kelly  
Billy Frank Bradford  
Mary Lynn, Cheryl Leigh  
& Ralph Perkins  
James A. Brewer  
Mr. & Mrs. James C. Brents Jr.  
Art Bridges  
Mr. & Mrs. Aubry L. Hays  
James "Jim" Brown  
Tucker's Crossing Baptist Church  
Willing Workers SSC,  
Tucker's Crossing  
Mary Bryant  
Mary Lynn, Cheryl Leigh  
& Ralph Perkins  
Albert Lee Bynum  
Mrs. Mildred Tyrone  
Gwen Calcote  
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church  
Frank Campbell  
Todd & Bobbie Horn  
Mrs. Jo Campbell  
Berwick Baptist Church  
Mary Ann Cannon  
Mary Lynn, Cheryl Leigh  
& Ralph Perkins  
Fred Carter  
Mr. & Mrs. Hembree Brandon  
Niece of Peggy Causey  
Glenda & Jerry Fry  
James Caves  
George & Ann Burton  
Mr. Donald Chance  
Mr. & Mrs. Dick Robertson  
Mr. Rodney Childress  
Renee & Jeremy Williams  
Ray, Jeanne & Russ Wise  
Beulah Coleman  
Mr. & Mrs. Hembree Brandon  
Juanita C. Coleman  
Mrs. Royce R. Thompson  
Aunt of Les Colvin  
Glenda & Jerry Fry  
Douglas Cooley  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hill  
Jana Craft  
Mrs. Dale P. Barr  
Faye Bledsoe  
Ms. Nellon Craft  
Mr. Robert L. Eiland  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward E. Smith  
Ella Little Crates  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Ezell  
Jane Crider  
Dr. & Mrs. Tommy King  
Charles Crum  
Mrs. Bobbie Crum  
Mr. Ray Culberson  
Branch Baptist Church  
Mrs. Mattie Mai Curran  
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Slay  
Grace Defenbaugh  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry P. Franklin  
Mr. Jerry Dickerson  
Ms. Clara Sue Pierce  
Mrs. Susie Byrd Minyard  
Ms. Nannie Ducker  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Mangold  
James W. Ellis  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Samuel & Gabriel Emerson  
Dr. & Mrs. Jay Hubbard  
Mrs. Ruth Fedric  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Gore III  
Mrs. Eunice Ferguson

Glenda & Jerry Fry  
Mrs. Victor B. Murray  
Ms. Laverette Files  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Blair  
Darryl Gibson  
Mrs. Hazel R. Howae  
Dot Giles  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Mrs. Jeanette Watford  
Bill Gray  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman L. Dungan Jr.  
Mrs. Dot Boyd Green  
Mrs. Victor B. Murray  
Ann Grieve  
Ms. Martha M. Putnam  
Mother of Don Griffin  
Glenda & Jerry Fry  
Mrs. Jewel Haga  
Renee & Jeremy Williams  
Ray, Jeanne & Russ Wise  
Rayleen Hall  
Ms. Nina C. Mickel  
Mr. Bill Hallman  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Mangold  
William F. Hallman  
Jackson VA-Nursing Home  
Care Unit  
Mrs. Lois Hargrove  
Jerry & Arlene Bradshaw  
Edna Harris  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Ezell  
Mr. Bruce K. Harris  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
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Mr. & Mrs. Samuel R. Lee  
Moody Little  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Rhymes, Retha,  
Lisa & Donnie  
Mr. Moody Little  
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Ms. Martha H. Woods  
Mr. Maurice Murray  
Dr. Jack Q. Causey  
Mr. Harold Nations  
Jan & Tommy Allison

## Employment Opportunity in Wiggins for Couple

The Baptist Children's Village is looking for a married couple to join their ministry team as houseparents at the Deanash Campus in Wiggins.

Applicants must be mature Christian adults with personal integrity, character and reputation with standards and ethics expected of any member of The Baptist Children's Village staff to be considered for the available position.

The primary job responsibility of a house parent is to maintain a home-like environment that models healthy, Christian family living for children and/or youth residents.

The duties of a houseparent are many and are varied and somewhat dependent upon the specific program and cottage to which assigned. The following list of responsibilities is to provide an overview of the job and is not an exhaustive list.

### Job responsibilities:

- Provide immediate supervision of residents in the cottage and other settings
- Participate fully in the implementation of each resident's Plan of Care
- Model Christian values and lifestyle for residents and their families
- Model a healthy physical, social and emotional lifestyle for residents
- Serve as the primary transportation resource for residents of assigned cottage

### Job requirements:

- 25-65 years of age
- A husband/wife team will be considered for this position
- Good physical, mental and emotional health
- Stable, even disposition
- Valid driver's license with a good driving record
- Educational background must be at a minimum a GED, but some college is preferred
- Experience in child rearing is preferred
- Must be flexible and able to work in a team environment
- Good organizational skills

Call The Baptist Children's Village 601-922-2242 to request an application or for more information.

The Rogers Family  
Richard & Elizabeth Rogers  
Tony & Linda Rogers  
Nancy Moak  
Sister of Kathryn Newell  
Glenda & Jerry Fry  
Mrs. Lorena Newman  
Joe & Mica Nixon  
Liberty Baptist Church-VIP  
Russell Newman  
Lance & Brandy Newman  
Luther Oakes  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard New  
Mary Elizabeth Oakes  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard New  
Curtis Oglesby  
Jerry & Arlene Bradshaw  
Mrs. Glendyne Osborne  
Mr. & Mrs. Carl DeLoach  
& Lindsey  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Gore III  
Howard L. "Pat" Patterson  
Dr. & Mrs. Tommy King  
Wayne Pierce  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Mangold  
M/M J Rhymes, Retha, Lisa  
& Donnie  
Mrs. Quin  
Jan & Tommy Allison  
Nancy & Conley Moak  
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Brooke C. Raymond  
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Mr. & Mrs. W. H. McPhail & Family  
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& Ralph Perkins  
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Mr. Dwight Rone  
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Bobby Saunders  
Mrs. Hiram Davis, Jr.  
Wayne Savell  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe H. Cleveland  
Mrs. Ellen Scarborough  
Mr. & Mrs. Hubert T. Kendrick  
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Mr. & Mrs. Henry M. Burkhalter  
Dr. & Mrs. Scott McCay  
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Nita Robertson Smith  
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Lauren Southerland  
David, Angela & Haley Stuart  
Nevis Speights  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman L. Dungan Jr.  
Mildred Springer  
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& Family  
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FBC-Guntown  
Olen Tadlock  
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Mr. & Mrs. Chelsae Knight  
& Family  
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Mr. Thomas M. Whitfield  
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe  
Nancy Woodall  
Galilee Baptist Church  
Adult II SSC, Galilee BC-Gloster  
Bruce Worrell  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill West

The Baptist Children's Village recently completed updating  
[www.baptistchildrensvillage.com](http://www.baptistchildrensvillage.com).

Please take time to visit the web site. Some of the changes include:

Improved and simplified online giving process  
New ways to access in-kind & volunteers needs  
Alumni reunion photos

Coming soon ... an electronic newsletter



## BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

### Getting Ready for the Savior

Luke 1:5-7,11-13,57-60,65-66,76-79

By Andy Vaughn

The amount of time and energy people are willing to spend on getting ready for something in life is amazing. Some spend twenty years plus on formal education, others may spend hours upon hours getting ready for a dinner party, while someone else may spend the course of a year buying decorations in preparation for the next event. We are a people that like to get ready! Not only are we people that like to get ready; we also have the opportunity to serve God in a way that allows us to get others ready for the Savior. Consider the question, "How can I be used to get others ready for the Savior?"

Being used by God to prepare others to believe in the Savior is a tremendous task.

One may ask, "How can I be ready for such an important job of preparing others to believe in Jesus?" Part of the answer to this question is found in being faithful to God where we are.

God's word states in Luke 1:6-7 (NAS), "And they were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. And they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years." According to God's word, Zacharias and his wife Elizabeth were righteous and blameless. Not only were they righteous and blameless, they were without a child.

Zacharias and Elizabeth lived life in a way that was



Vaughn

characterized by obedience to God's commandments rather than a reaction to their life situation. They wanted a child, but God had not blessed them yet. In the midst of their life situation, Zacharias and Elizabeth were faithful to God first.

Luke 1:13 (NAS) states, "But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John.' Zacharias and Elizabeth spent their lives serving God and preparing for the day they would have a child. Not only did God promise a child, He was able to use the preparedness of Zacharias and Elizabeth to prepare others for the coming Savior.

Luke 1:17 (NAS) says, "And it is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers back to the children, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous; so

as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." John the Baptist's parents, Zacharias and Elizabeth, were instrumental in their child being a servant for God to prepare others for the Savior Jesus Christ. Consider the question, "Am I prepared to serve as God's instrument to help others believe in Jesus as their Savior?"

Verses 18-25 begin with Zacharias asking, "How shall I know this for certain?" As faithful servants we must expect to receive an answer from God. God wants to answer us and He will. Notice how God solidified His answer to Zacharias by sealing Zacharias' lips. God will do what He needs to prepare His servants for His task!

Faithful servants must also stick to the task of preparing others for the coming Savior. Luke 1:60 (NAS) says, "And his mother answered and said, 'No indeed; but he shall be called John'. Elizabeth's neighbors and relatives rejoiced with her in the excitement of her child. What a wonderful blessing in her life to finally have a child. But one very

important thing Elizabeth had to do was stick to the promise God had given to her and Zacharias. She had to call him John, as God had instructed. When God gives us a promise we must stick to it so that He can use us to prepare others for the Savior. Verses 57-66 describe the faithfulness of Zacharias and Elizabeth as they stood firm in their task, and how others were amazed at God's work revealed before them.

Verse 76 of Luke chapter one states, "And you child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare His ways." John the Baptist was God's chosen instrument to go in advance of the Lord to give knowledge of God's salvation. What an amazing task! Zacharias and Elizabeth were instrumental in John's being able to prepare the way for the coming Savior. God's word encourages us all to be useful instruments in getting other people ready to hear about the Savior.

Vaughn is pastor of First Church, Fulton.

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

### Admit Your Sin Problem

Genesis 3:1-13, 22-23

By Meleen Moore

Being "caught red-handed" is a Scottish phrase made popular by writer Sir Walter Scott in 1819. It seems to describe the situation in which man finds himself in Genesis chapter three. The phrase simply means being caught in the act or with positive evidence of a crime. Adam and Eve fit the mold as God found them hiding in the Garden of Eden after accepting the temptation and committing the sin of disobedience. Struggles with resisting temptation are a constant challenge to us in our daily Christian lives.

#### I. Temptation Lures Us Genesis 3:1-5

A subtle, cunning, shrewd serpent appeared to the woman in the garden saying, "Ye shall

not eat of every tree in the garden" (Genesis 3:1 KJV). To the woman's credit, she quickly gave praise to God for the generous selection of trees only forbidding one in the mist of the garden. However, there are three variances from God's command in Genesis 2: 16-17 KJV, "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." She did not state the name of the tree, tree of knowledge of good and evil, maybe to lessen its importance. She added the thought of not touching the tree and veered from the stated punishment of "thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:17 KJV) to "lest ye



Moore

die" (Genesis 3:3 KJV). The serpent, known to be Satan, chided her with the idea that death would not occur as to say don't believe God and raising doubts about God. Satan seemed to know God rather well from the statement in verse five "For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof..." (Genesis 3:5 KJV). The temptation to eat the fruit was desirable on two counts that their eyes would be opened and they would be like God — knowing good and evil. What lures us into temptation?

#### II. Sin Alienates Us From God Genesis 3: 6-10

The woman saw that the fruit was good for food, pleasant to the eyes and desirable for wisdom so she ate the fruit, gave to her husband and he ate the fruit (Genesis 3:6 KJV). The alienation was not caused by the tempter or the temptation. It was the acceptance of the temptation, willful disobedience

to God's command. With opened eyes they knew of their nakedness, their difference of each other and the need for covering themselves. Now the question arises as to the gains out weighing the losses in accepting the temptation to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The beautiful image of hearing God's voice as He walked in the garden in the cool of the evening (Genesis 3: 8 KJV) was not as beautiful for the man and woman as they were afraid and hid themselves among the trees from the presence of the Lord. God invited Adam and Eve to come to him when he said "Where are you" (Genesis 3:9 KJV). If it were not for the seriousness of the offense, it would be a humorous thought of fig leaves and a hiding game separating man and God. What sins alienates us from God?

#### III. God Confronts Us Genesis 3:11-13, 22-23

God questioned man's knowledge of his nakedness and having eaten of the forbid-

den fruit. Man was called to be accountable and confess his actions. God said "Who told thee that thou wast naked" (Genesis 3: 11 KJV)? The man loses no time in placing blame on the woman and God — for God did give woman to man. The woman blames serpent for deceiving her and causing her to make a poor choice. For man the loss was great as he lost being in the daily presence of God in the Garden of Eden only to gain the knowledge of good and evil. The disobedient act of man caused the lost opportunity to eat of the tree of life and live forever in the garden. As God passed judgment, he announced punishment on the serpent, woman and man. Man had forfeited God's favor and life in paradise was over as man and woman were sent from the garden to till the soil. The punishment showed how God hated sin. As God confronts us, admission and confession are the only way to restoration of our relationship with Him.

Moore is a member of Macedonia Church, Petal.

## Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will

be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the **who, what, when, where** details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be

clear, sharp, and well-lighted. **Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.**

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape-, building-, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

THE BAPTIST  
**Record**



## Bibliocipher

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NGPOP PWYSE OHSC  
EYU, SECUWP, QGVWOPG  
SECO EWPS PGGH UG,  
SECO EWPS QGRYGJGA:  
QRGPPGA WDG SEGT  
SEWS EWJG HCS PGGH,  
WHA TGS EWJG  
QGRYGJGA.

NCEH SLGHST: SLGHST-  
HYHG

Clue: N=I

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Proverbs Twenty-Seven:One.

### MS POSITIONS

**HARRISVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**, Simpson Association, seeking a full-time minister of youth/activities director. Resumes should be sent to Harrisville Baptist Church, attn: search committee, P. O. Box 308, Harrisville, MS 39082.

### CLASSIFIED ADS

**REASONABLY PRICED INSURANCE:** Medicare supplements, major medical, & small group health insurance plans available for individuals & churches. Call Carra Turner (662) 231-4487 for rates or visit [www.turnerinsuranceonline.com](http://www.turnerinsuranceonline.com).

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**DISCOUNT BAPTISTRIES & STEEPLES.** Baptist murals, heaters, lighting, seating, wall crosses, pew cushions, kringlas, carpet, signs. Church Supply Company of Texas, (800) 728-8291.

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**FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE PASTOR** of worship and youth needed at Little Escambia Baptist Church. Desiring a blended service, with choir(s) and aggressive youth leadership. Education and experience desired. Send resume to P.O. Box 291, Flomation, AL 36441, or email [littleescambia@earthlink.net](mailto:littleescambia@earthlink.net).

**SEEKING FULL-TIME ASSOC. PASTOR/** ed. director with passion for S.S. Send resumes to Vicki Brantly at [vbrantly@hotmail.com](mailto:vbrantly@hotmail.com), or East Side Baptist Church, 718 E. 9th Street, Mountain Home, AR 72653.

**CRAWFORD BAPTIST CHURCH,** Mobile, Alabama; seeking a senior pastor who is an experienced leader with 5 years of ministry experience, posses college & seminary degrees, has strong leadership skills, skilled in expository preaching style and a strong supporter of the Baptist Faith and messages. Send resumes to Benny Johnston, 4500 Harvest Blvd., Semmes, Alabama 36575, email [Bjohns7467@aol.com](mailto:Bjohns7467@aol.com).

**WANTED: CHRISTIAN SINGLE LADY,** 60 plus to live in a lovely private apt and who loves to travel, shop, eat out & entertain. To be housekeeper & companion to a retired lady in exchange for free rent, all utilities paid. If interested call (601) 684-5754 after 5 p.m.

## JUST FOR THE RECORD

1. The sanctuary choir and orchestra of **Main Street Church, Hattiesburg**, will present the Glory of Christmas December 9, 3 p.m.
2. **Mt. Zion Church, Eupora**, is presenting Bethlehem's Child Dec. 8, 7 p.m. For more information, call (662) 258-2628.
3. **South McComb Church, McComb**, will host The Providentials in concert December 9, 11 a.m. A covered dish lunch will follow.
4. **Carterville Church, Petal**, is presenting Peace on Earth, Dec. 15 & 16, 6 p.m., and a silent Christmas service Dec. 23; come and go from 4-7 p.m.
5. **Crystal Ridge Church, Louisville**, presented a plaque and monetary gift to Maggie Eaves in appreciation of over 30 years of service as church treasurer. Shown are Eaves and pastor Tommy Jones.
6. **Trinity Church, Petal**, ordained Kent Cooper to the gospel ministry recently. Shown are Jimmy Long, Cooper, and Amanda Cooper.
7. The Praise Players handbell choir from **First Church, Plantersville**, played at the Plantersville Community Service Nov. 18. Shown are the participants.
8. **First Church, Ridgeland**, will present A Christmas Prayer, Dec. 9, 10 a.m. For more information, call (601) 856-6139.



5. Eaves honored for service, Crystal Ridge Church, Louisville



7. Praise Players handbell choir, First Church, Plantersville



6. Cooper ordained to ministry, Trinity Church, Petal

## COLLEGE NEWS

1. The William Carey University (WCU) Theatre will present the children's fantasy The Silver Whistle by Patrick B. Mace December 13 and 14 at 7 p.m. and December 15 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the O. L. Quave Theatre on the Hattiesburg campus. Admission is \$5 and reservations can be made by calling the box office at 601-318-6221 beginning Monday, Dec. 10. The box office is open daily from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.



3. BMC Scholarship Recipients

2. The Winters School of Music at WCU will feature Louis Nagel, concert pianist, and Julie Nagel, Ph.D., psychologist and psychoanalyst, on December 7-8, as part of their 2007 concert series. Julie Nagel will present a pre-concert lecture on Performance Anxiety on December 7, 2007, at 6 p.m. in the Lucile Parker Art Gallery. This lecture will not only focus on the performance anxiety issues that plague musicians. Other professionals who are blocked in their efforts to enjoy successful performances and suffer from anxiety, depression, or other difficulties will greatly benefit from this lecture as well. Louis Nagel will present a concert on Dec. 7, 7 p.m., in Smith Auditorum. Tickets are \$10 general admission and \$7 for seniors. WCU students and faculty are admitted free.
3. The Mississippi Baptist Convention's Board of Ministerial Education announced the 2007 recipients of the William Clawson and William Washburn scholarships. **Blue Mountain College** senior, Tim Bass, a Biblical Studies major from Tiptonville, was the recipient of the William Clawson Scholarship. The scholarship was established in 1987 in honor of Dr. Clawson, a career missionary to Honduras. Teddy James, Jr., a senior Biblical Studies/English major from New Albany, received the William Washburn Scholarship that was established in memory of Washburn who served as the Academic Dean at Blue Mountain College for 35 years. Pictured are: Blue Mountain College President Bettye Rogers Coward, Bass, James, and Jim Futral, Executive Director-Treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.